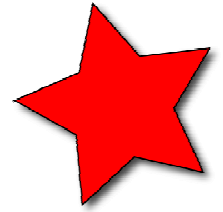


STAR NEWS

November 2011



Marohn's Message

As we enter the month of November, the students have settled into well-established daily routines and continue to work hard in the classroom. Student progress will be shared during our Parent-Teacher Conference Days, scheduled for November 1 (pre-K only), 8 and 16. Please contact your child's teacher if you haven't yet scheduled a time to meet.

Up until this point in the school year, the weather has been cooperating for the most part. Please keep in mind, however, that as we enter the colder months to come, children will continue to go outside for recess unless we have extremely cold or wet weather. Please send your child to school prepared with coats, hats, and gloves as needed.

November 10 will be our annual district-wide "Go Home Early" drill. Students will be dismissed approximately 15 minutes earlier than normal, with dismissal beginning at 3:00 pm on this day. If you are picking your child up, please make every effort to be here at 3:00 to assist with a timely dismissal.

During this month, Saddlewood will once again be participating in the "Toys for Tots" campaign, in conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps. November 30 has been designated as the pick-up date to "Stuff the Bus" here at school. We will have a brief morning program on this date prior to the collection of the toys. More information will be sent home regarding this event throughout the month.

Please continue to keep in regular contact with the school regarding the needs of your child as the school year moves forward. I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday spent with family, friends and loved ones!

Michael Marohn - Principal

Letter from the PTA President

Happy Fall Saddlewood!

I'd like to thank all of you who participated in our **Fall Fundraiser**; preliminary results indicate that it was very successful!! All orders will be available for pick-up on Thursday, November 17th, 3-7pm. The PTA relies on the success of this main fund raiser to enable us to enrich the education of our children with such programs like Scotia-Glenville Museum visits. Your support of our efforts is invaluable and greatly appreciated! Huge thanks also go out to Christie Gebauer and Mary Shelton for coordinating and finalizing the fund raiser with Cherrydale Farms.

We also had a wonderfully successful Fall **Scholastic Book Fair!** Hopefully everyone that shopped found great books to read during our PARP program! Thank you to our Book Fair Chairs, Christie Gebauer and Lisa DeForge for putting it together. We are also very grateful to all of the parents and grandparents who gave of their time to help the kids shop; we certainly couldn't do it without you!

Our membership continues to grow and is at a record high! If you haven't purchased your 2011-2012 **PTA Membership** there is still time! Any parent, grandparent, guardian, etc. is welcome to join our Unit. Becoming a member does not obligate you to anything; you participate as you are able and willing, nothing more. All PTA members are not only given a voice but will also receive a free copy of the 2011-2012 Student Directory. You can download an enrollment form from the Saddlewood page on the District's website or contact Megan Padelford at meglauren@yahoo.com.

November is going to be a busy month at Saddlewood! Because of all that is scheduled we have moved our famous **No TV Week** to February 6-10. Don't fret; we are still planning on giving the kids a chance to "**Make-A-Plate**" in time for the holidays! Please remember to check the PTA Weekly Bulletin, SNN and backpacks for all event information.

Once again thank you for your support; it is because of everyone's dedication and commitment to the kids at Saddlewood that we are able to do ALL that we do!

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Nurse's News

November is a very busy month in the health office. I will be performing the mandated vision and hearing tests (with the appropriate grade levels) as well as continuing to follow up/document the mandated physicals. I ask your cooperation in sending in all necessary paper work as soon as possible. As a reminder, you can contact Access Health Systems (our school physicians) and take your child to them for free for this physical. You need only to call 782-2200 to make an appointment.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Saddlewood will have a non-perishable food drive from November 14 through the 18. The food collected will be given to families within our community who are in need. If you think that you could use some assistance, please call me or send a note into me by November 15.

FYI!!! For safety, I want to remind all parents that we discourage the students from sharing snacks or their lunches. All of the students have a designated snack time in their class and a small nutritious snack from home is encouraged. If they forget for some reason or another I always have additional snacks in the health office.

Update on the Walking Club-- Mr. Eggleston, Ms. Villa and I now have about 40 to 45(2nd, 3rd, 4th) grade students walking with us on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is a very good way for the children to learn good health habits in a fun and relaxing atmosphere. We are so happy to see so many children participate.

I wish all of our Saddlewood families and friends a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Character Ed Corner

Saddlewood's character education word of the month for November is thankfulness. While there are many challenges facing people today, it is important to teach children the value of gratitude. We can all take time and appreciate the little things in life that cost nothing. A beautiful day, a pretty song, a delicious meal, a friend to play with, someone to love, or a warm bed, are all worthy of our thanks. When we look around the world, we realize how blessed we really are in our country. Remember, grateful people are happy people. Teaching your child this lesson is a gift in itself.

PTA Officers 2010-2011

President

Teri Blake
869-4185

Vice- Presidents

Christie Gebauer
869-8989

Mary Shelton

869-0474

Sherri Fyan

869-1011

Treasurer

Ann Spratt
869-9615

Recording Secretary

Beth Bomba
869-1592

Corresponding Secretary

Megan Padelford
452-0186

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 3rd

School Banking

November 8th – Election Day

Conference Day – No School

PTA Meeting – 7pm

November 10th

Go Home Early Drill

School Banking

November 11th

Veteran's Day – No School

November 14th

Food Drive Begins

November 15th

Make-a-Plate Night 6:30-8

November 16th

Conference Day – No School

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

November 17th

School Banking

Fundraiser Pick up

November 18th

Barnes & Noble night

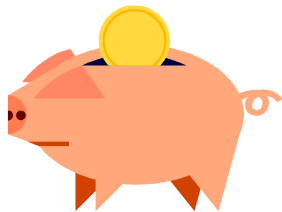
November 24th & 25th

Thanksgiving Break

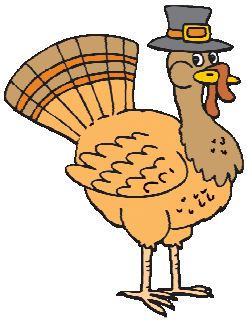
STUDENT BANKING IS IN FULL SWING!

Saddlewood PTA has partnered with Capital Communications Federal Credit Union (CAPCOM) for Student Banking. Students will be given the opportunity to make deposits to their very own savings account every Thursday after morning announcements.

If you have questions or would like to be a banking volunteer please contact Ann Spratt at aspratt@nycap.rr.com.



EVENTS AND NEWS...



November DTA Meeting

Please join us **Tuesday, November 7th, at 7:00 pm** in the Cafeteria for our holiday DTA meeting.

Refreshments will be served!

MAKIt
Make-A-Plate
November 15th 6:30-8:00
\$6.00 per plate

Come in and have your child create a design that will be transferred onto a plate. Make a great gift!

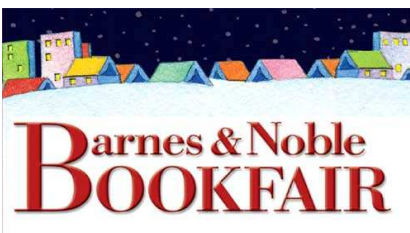
COLONIE CENTER SCHOOL BUCKS PROGRAM IS GOING STRONG!



Please remember to get your sales receipt stamped at the Customer Service Desk when you shop, dine or see a movie at Colonie Center. Saddlewood gets points for every dollar spent at ANY of the mall merchants. The top ten schools will receive cash awards ranging from \$500 - \$8,000!! Did you host a birthday party at Regal Cinemas? Did you replace that old dishwasher or plan ahead with a new snow blower from Sears? Did you get all of your “this and that” from Christmas Tree Shop? Send your receipts with your name/teacher on the back to school, we’ll get it stamped and return it to you. Contact Christie Gebauer at cgebauer@nycap.rr.com for more information.



Save the Date Barnes and Noble Night is Fri-Nov 18th



Help support Saddlewood and also start your holiday shopping a little early. Stop by the Colonie Center store anytime on Nov 18th and mention your with Saddlewood and we earn a portion of all proceeds the higher the sales the higher our percentage. If you cannot make it that night or have friends and relatives out of town you can always order on-line. You will be amazed at all the new items in the store- legos, crafts, teacher supplies, books, cards, notecards, magazines, puzzles, cheese cakes, calendars and music. You can probably find something for anyone you need to. Watch the backpacks, SNN, and Facebook for more details on the event. If you would like to help contact Wendy Nelson @ JWBills3@gmail.com or Stacey Philips @ jpsp61497@yahoo.com.



Saddlewood Food Drive
November 14th-18th

Please share the spirit of the Holidays by helping us collect non-perishable food items for families in need. Collection boxes will be located in the main hallway.

If each child brings in one item, just think how much food we could collect! This is a simple and effective way to teach your children the value of giving to others. We have decided to try a new approach to collecting, listed are the items being collected by grade level.

Pre-K - canned corn, carrots, peas and green beans.

Kindergarten – stuffing mix, canned (not glass) or packet gravy

Grade 1 – instant potatoes, canned yams/ sweet potatoes

Grade 2 – applesauce (no glass), cranberry sauce, canned fruit

Grade 3 – non perishable pie crust mix (jiffy, Betty Crocker), pudding mixes, fruit pie fillings, prepared graham cracker crusts, cake mix, bread mix

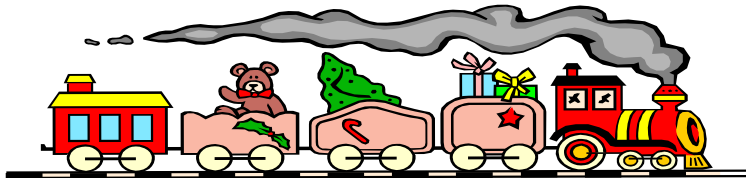
Grade 4 – pasta, prepared spaghetti sauce (no glass)

Staff – protein or staple items, canned tuna or fish, canned chicken, peanut butter, flour, sugar

This year all items will be donated to families in need within the Saddlewood community

Thank You in advance for your generous support and Happy Holidays! If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Snow on 456-2608.

The Holiday Gift Shop will be pulling into school soon!



WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOME HOLIDAY HELPERS!
If you are available to assist our shoppers anytime during the schooldays of 12/5 – 12/9 please contact:
Teri Blake at 869-4185 or teriblake@nycap.rr.com
Ann Spratt at 869-9615 or aspratt@nycap.rr.com.

Read Yourself Silly

Our PARP readers continue reading to help Dilly return to silly. We've also had help from Dally (Mr. Eggleston), Doc Prock, (Mrs. Prock) Silly Sally (Ms. Villa) Wacky Walsh and Hilarious Hunter (Mrs. Walsh & Ms. Hunter).

Please help us ...

Stuff the Bus with Toys For Tots



Saddlewood Parents

Please help South Colonie Schools bring joy to a needy child this holiday season.

For the fifth straight year, district employees, students and their families are teaming up with the U.S. Marine Corps in a unique campaign to "Stuff The Bus" with Toys For Tots.

Toys For Tots, sponsored by the Marines Corps since 1947, annually provides some 60,000 Capital District children with toys for the holidays.

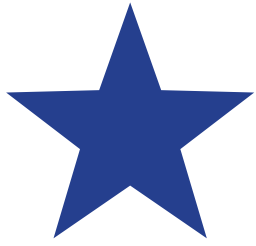


Saddlewood will be collecting toys

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 30**

If you would like to contribute to the campaign, please send your child to school on one of these days with a new, unwrapped toy and help us Stuff the Bus.

Holiday Freedom Boxes for the Troops



November 12 & 13

Colonie Center – Center Court



Join Colonie Center and Capital Region NY2 Blue Star Mothers as we fill Holiday Freedom Boxes for local men and women serving overseas. Donations will be accepted November 12 and 13 at Center Court. For more information visit capitalregion2bsm.org.

CASH DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Please consider cash donations this year to help defray the \$10.95 cost of shipping per box. We are hoping to send 700 Freedom Boxes.

Earn bonus points for your school! Every school who donates to Blue Star Mothers will earn 2,000 Bonus Points. There will be extra bonus points awarded to the schools who donate the most!

- 1st Place..... 20,000 Points
- 2nd Place.....10,000 Points
- 3rd Place..... 5,000 Points

BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA

The Capital Region NY2 Blue Star Mothers is a non-partisan, non-political organization. We do not support any political candidate, nor do we endorse any religious organization. The military represents all aspects of America, as does our organization. We are mothers who now have, or have had children honorably serving in the military. As we support our military, we develop a strong bond to each other. We support each other in times of stress and celebrate together our happy times. We are proud patriots. We are a non-profit (501(c)3) Veterans service organization supporting our military while promoting patriotism.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

